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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	Prisons in Wuchou and Huiyang	DATE DISTR.	25 February 1954	
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		

25X11. [] a detention area called the New Life Camp was at Chiaocho (6037/0731),¹ across the Kuei (2710) River from Wuchou (N 23-28, E 111-19). Since 300 able-bodied, middle-aged prisoners were sent by the Communists to Liuchou (N 24-18, E 109-16) from the camp, [] there were about 200 old and feeble inmates, including anti-revolutionaries, landlords, and criminals, at the camp. Because of poor sanitary conditions and food, many prisoners died in the camp. Discipline was severe; beatings and solitary confinement were used to punish offenders. During the month [] 15 deaths occurred in the camp.

25X1 2. The Chinese Communist authorities in Wuchou also held many farmers in custody. Farmers who because of the poor harvests were unable to pay the summer crops tax requested the authorities to reduce the amount of the tax. In response, the authorities not only refused the request, but accused the farmers of refusing to pay the tax. [] approximately 70 farmers from the area around Wuchou were being detained under this charge.

25X13. [] the Huiyang Hsien Prison and other jails in Huiyang (N 23-05, E 114-26) were overcrowded. In order to limit the number of prisoners, the Communists were sentencing to death and shooting between one and twenty prisoners daily; and all prisoners serving sentences of five to ten years were being sent to do hard labor on collective farms or in the newly exploited areas.²

25X1 [] Comments

1. This area is probably Sanchiaocho (0005/6037/0731), directly across the Kuei River from Wuchou.
2. Presumably the reference is to areas in Northwest China.

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